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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Conditions in Shanghai, Summer 1954

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2. In the middle of August, different parts of Shanghai were flooded. The flooded areas were especially extensive on 12-14 Aug 54. Not only was Kiangning Road covered with over one foot of flood water, but even such main thoroughfares as Ta-ma-lu (Nanking Road) and Yu Ya-ching Road (Tibet Road).

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3. Four housewives with children, were reported to be holding full time jobs so as to balance their budgets, two working in factories, one teaching in an elementary school and one working in the power company in the Cha Pei area. Few people are visiting their relatives these days "because we live so far away from one another and are all so busy."

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4. One electric power plant (tien chi ch'ang) had been moved to a suburban area.

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Exact location was not specified.

5. The People's Government of Peking had decided to increase the college population by 100% for the school year 1954-1955. Not only high school graduates were urged to take part in the competitive entrance examinations, but also young employees of government agencies. A clerk in the Bank of China in Shanghai was ordered to take the examinations although he was only a junior

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high school graduate and had never attended a senior high school or studied any senior high subjects. He was relieved of his job so he could concentrate on preparation. The young man was bewildered, for he had been told the examinations were difficult and standards would be made even stiffer than in 1953. He did not know what he could do to regain his job in case he failed the examination.

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